

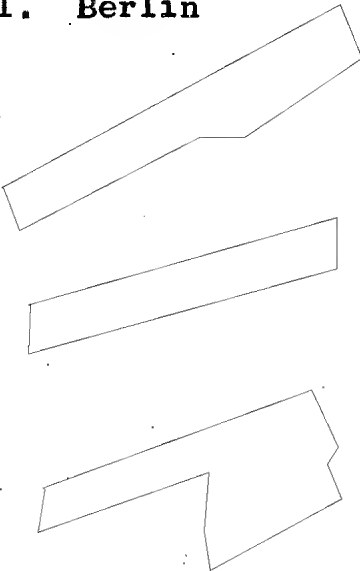
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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

8 NOVEMBER 1963
~~**TOP SECRET**~~

1. Berlin



a. A French convoy of non-dismountable size cleared the Marienborn checkpoint without incident this morning. A similar British convoy is set to make the run now that the French got through Babelsberg.

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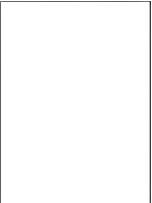
b. The next test US convoy is now scheduled for Tuesday.

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c. Ambassador Kohler discussed the autobahn holdups with Gromyko and Kosygin at last night's Kremlin reception. Kosygin played down the seriousness of the incidents, remarking that "soldiers sometimes are too eager to fulfill instructions", but Gromyko insisted that Soviet ground rules had to be obeyed if incidents were to be avoided.

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2. South Vietnam

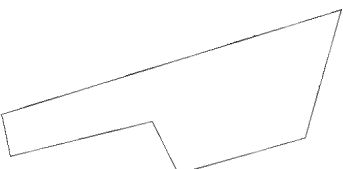


a. The Viet Cong is moving as expected to exploit post-coup dislocations in the government's counter-insurgency effort.

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b. The rate of small-scale Communist attacks has doubled since the coup. These have been for the most part probing actions and government forces have responded well.

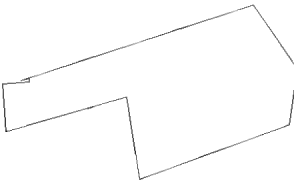
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c. Government troops are being shifted from Saigon back to operational areas in the expectation that the Viet Cong will supplement these small-scale efforts with larger-scale efforts against soft targets.


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d. The Communists' "liberation radio" is urging the Viet Cong to greater efforts to "change the balance of forces at this favorable juncture."



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e. Along with this, there are signs that the Communists, believing that the potential is probably there, are trying hard to encourage dissension among the generals and their followers. One broadcast, beamed at Saigon, pointed out that "some are promoted, others are passed over."



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3. Laos



a. Souvanna returns to Vientiane today optimistic and determined to have another go at a reconciliation with the Pathet Lao.

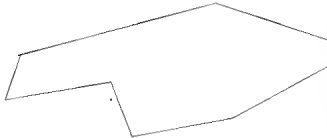
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b. He apparently intends to renew his proposal, which the Pathets have rejected in the past, to move

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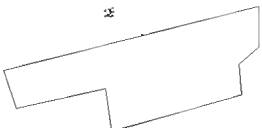
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the Laotian administrative capital to Luang Prabang and demilitarize it. He claims to have Soviet support for this.



c. General Phoumi has told Ambassador Unger that criticism of Souvanna from the right is mounting. Unger comments that the period following the premier's return is likely to be a delicate one.

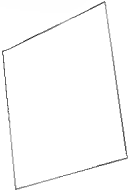
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d. The Pathet Lao have chosen this juncture for their sharpest action since the end of the rainy season. Yesterday they hit neutralist positions in the Plaine des Jarres with what was described as a 1,000-man attack supported by artillery, mortar and machine-gun fire. The neutralists say the attack was repulsed.

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4. Morocco-Algeria



a. Although Algiers and Rabat have restrained their forces from further fighting since Monday, the cease-fire is precarious.

b. Both countries are trying to improve their military dispositions along the disputed frontier and both are receiving additional military help.

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c. Egyptian shipments continue.

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f. The border war has done little to solidify Ben Bella's position. An old foe, Belkacem Krim, has returned to Algiers

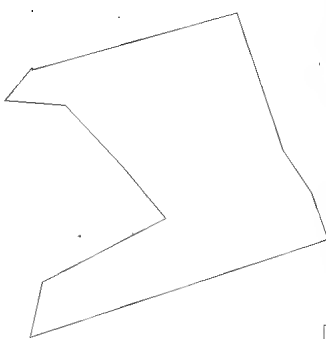
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5. France

a. The General Assembly was told yesterday that France will have a nuclear striking force of 15-20 Mirage IV bombers by the end of next year.

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b. This forecast, unlike the speculation which De Gaulle's government has been encouraging the press to disseminate, is probably not far off the mark. We believe that the first production aircraft will come off the line next month.

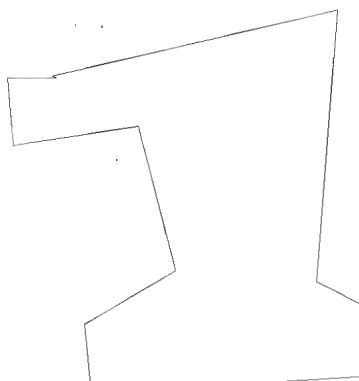
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c. Thereafter, French plans call for the delivery of one or two a month until the programmed force of 50 is reached late in 1965 or early 1966.

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6. British Guiana

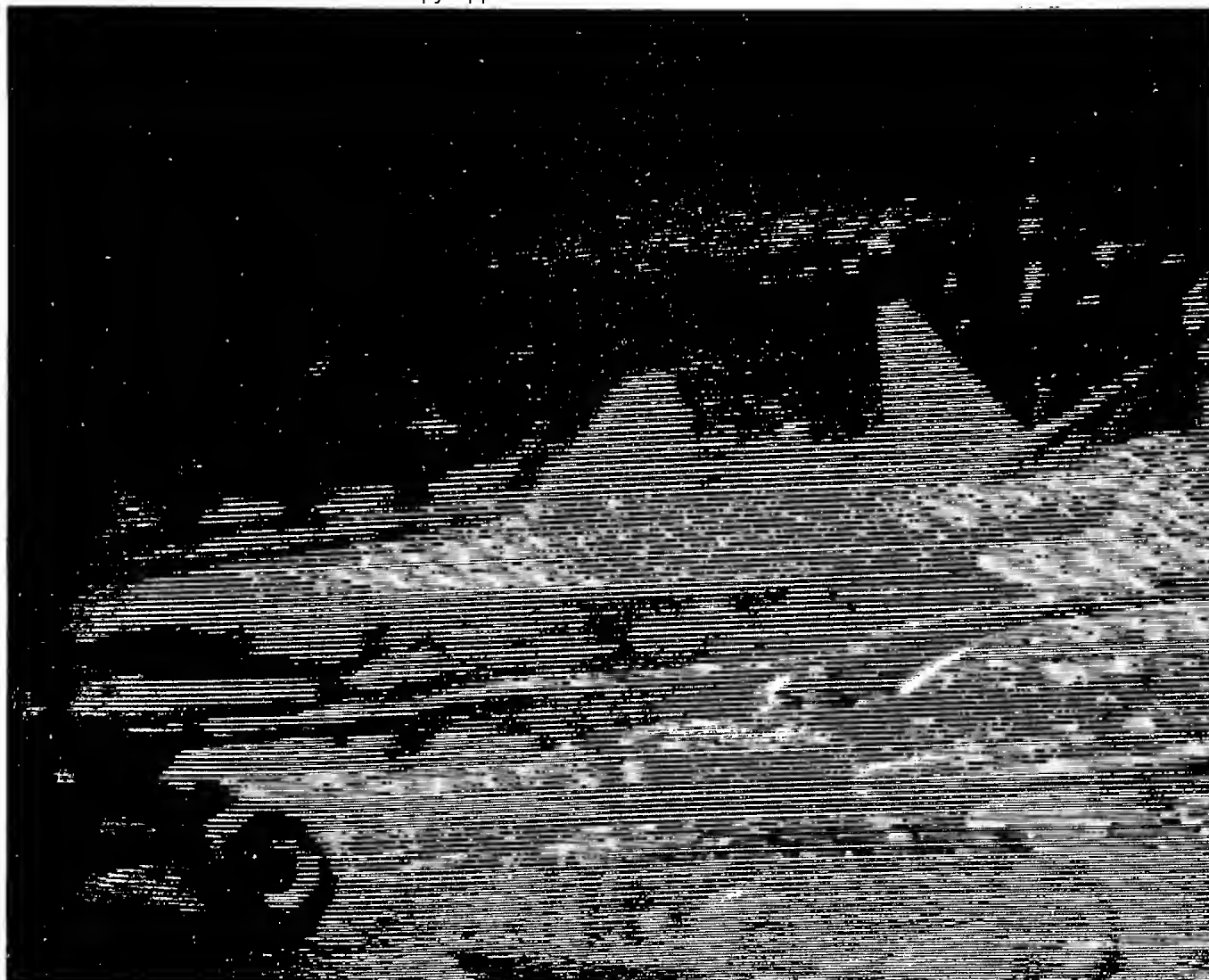
a. Jagan's response to the setbacks he received at last week's constitutional talks is beginning to take shape.



b. He is staying on in London to press for early independence without a British-imposed election scheme, while his party chairman has turned up in Georgetown denouncing the "unbelievable subservience" of the British to the paranoic Americans.

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PROBABLE SOVIET ANTIMISSILE MISSILES

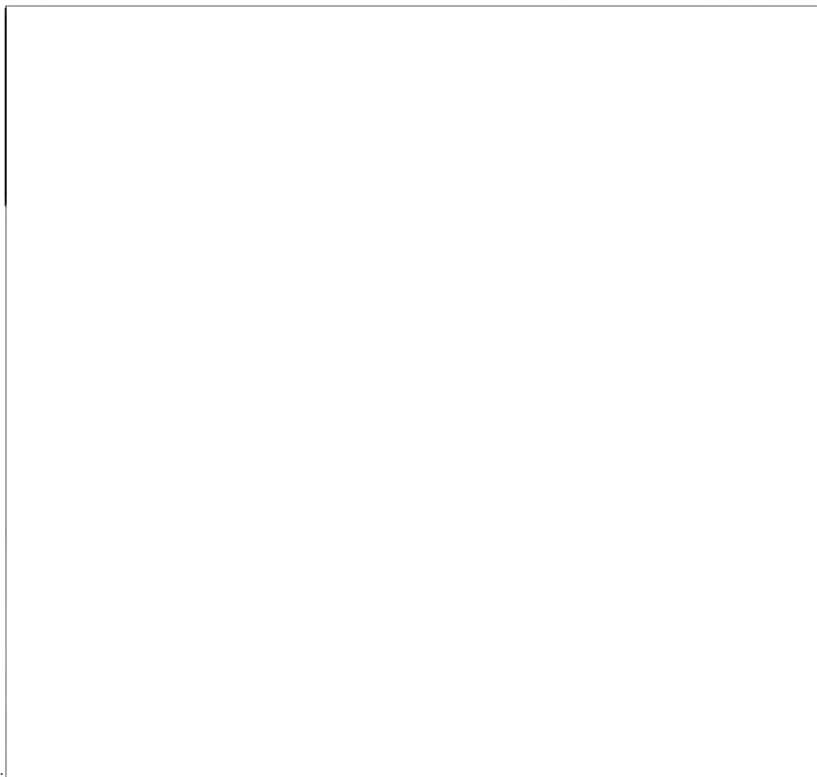
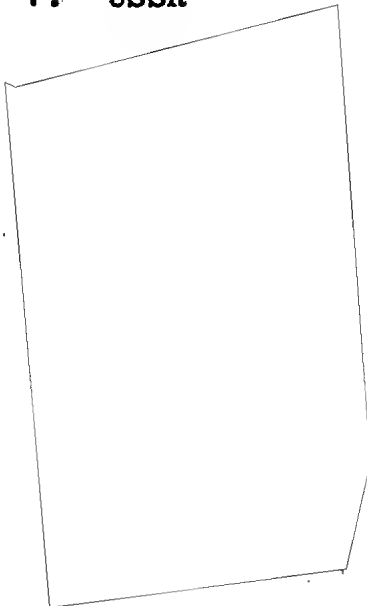
Approximately 50 feet long, these missiles were displayed publicly for the first time in the Moscow parade on 7 November.



c. The government-sponsored agricultural workers union has begun a new drive to capture control of Indian sugar mill workers, the largest single group of organized laborers in the country. Jagan's organizers are pulling out all the stops, telling the Indians that they must join up now or lose to the "black man" everything that Jagan has gained for them.

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7. USSR



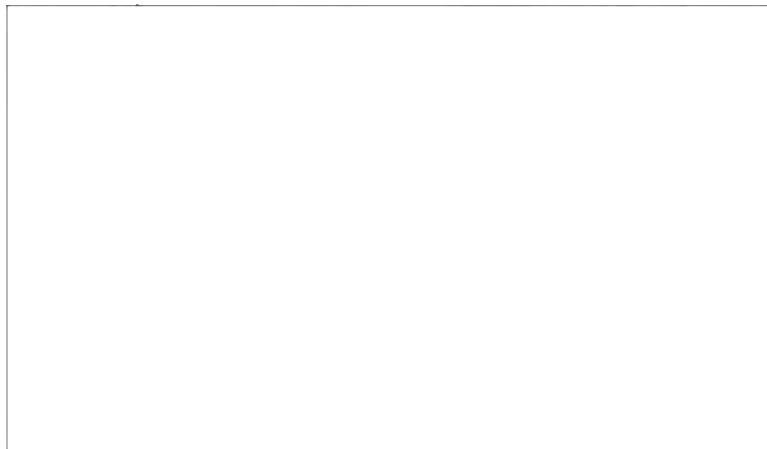
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NOTES

A. British By-elections Prime Minister Home won his seat in Commons with a margin only slightly under the Conservative margin in this constituency in the 1959 election. In Luton, however, Labor took a Conservative seat. Luton is the sort of prosperous, middle class area, in the past firmly Tory, in which Labor has been making inroads lately.

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B. Venezuela-Cuba Some of the weapons in the cache uncovered by security forces in [redacted] Venezuela [redacted] may have been of Cuban origin. [redacted]

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C. Dominican Republic The armed insurrection by pro-Castro elements [redacted] has been delayed by the arrest of key operatives.

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D. Jordan Husayn has had reports of a possible Baathist coup attempt against him and has arrested [redacted] Jordanian Baath members. Last summer he jailed about 40 Baathists, including the Jordanian party's secretary general, and these are still under detention. [redacted] the arrests should forestall any attempt in the near future.

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E. USSR-Cuba The Soviet passenger ship Gruziya apparently landed some military personnel at Mariel

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F. USSR-Iraq Five Soviet officers are in Baghdad to iron out the wrinkles in Moscow's military aid program. They are trying to placate the Iraqis about certain unfulfilled contracts and to deal with SAM equipment which has been crated for return to the USSR.

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G. Italy-MLF The Italian ambassador to NATO has suggested to Ambassador Finletter that the US should move quickly to get the outgoing Italian government committed to the MLF. This looks like an attempt to make more difficult Moro's task of negotiating an "opening to the left." In fact, Nenni Socialists are already complaining to Embassy officials about alleged US "pressures" for a definite Italian commitment right now.

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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